

CONNECTED

January 2005



Water and Sewer Rate Increases Take Effect on January 1, 2005



The City of Marietta will increase rates for water and sewer service beginning January 1, 2005.

The water rate will rise 2-1/2 percent for water, and the rate for sewer service will go up four percent. These increases are necessary due to cost increases by the city's wholesale suppliers.

These increases will also help the City of Marietta continue to fund its ongoing capital improvement

program. The city has set in motion a 10-year plan to improve the water and sewer system's reliability, meet future demands, and maintain compliance with state and federal regulators in the most cost-effective manner possible.

To learn more about the city's capital improvement plan, please visit www.city.marietta.ga.us/Water/infrastructure.htm. ⚡

Celebrate Your Favorite Shade Tree on Arbor Day 2005

The City of Marietta invites you to join in a statewide tribute to Georgia's trees on Friday, February 18, 2005.

This year's Arbor Day festivities will mark the 114th year that our state has held the observance. Georgia's leaders first made the observance official in 1891, less than 20 years after the first Arbor Day observance took place in Nebraska. One of that state's leading journalists and political leaders, Julius Sterling Martin, came up with the idea for

Arbor Day when it occurred to him that Nebraska's economy (as well as its landscape) would benefit from planting trees on a large scale. While speaking at a Nebraska Board of Agriculture meeting in January of 1872, he proposed that the state set aside a day to educate people about the importance of trees and plant as many as possible. State officials designated April 22 of that



year, which also happened to be Morton's birthday, as the date for the first Arbor Day observance. Nebraskans responded by planting more than one million trees that day.

The success of Arbor Day in Nebraska gradually prompted other states to hold similar observances. Most chose the last Friday in April, but Georgia and several other states decided to celebrate the occasion during a more suitable time for tree planting. As a result, Georgia celebrates

continued

Visit Marietta Power and Marietta Water at www.mariettaga.gov



Celebrate Your Favorite Shade
Tree on Arbor Day 2005
(continued)

Arbor Day on the third Friday in February.

Arbor Day provides a superb opportunity to inspect the trees on your property and start thinking about the future. In addition to looking for broken branches, you should check for signs of insect infestation or disease. You can also take advantage of the opportunity to consider ways that planting new trees could benefit you. After all, trees can do more than improve the look of your property. They can also shade your house from the hot summer sun or shield it from the cold winter wind.

Finally, as you contemplate the trees around you this Arbor Day, take special note of any live oaks you happen to see. In 1937, the Georgia legislature selected the live oak as Georgia's official state tree. The legislature's final joint resolution praised the live oak as "a tree indigenous to the soil of our State and especially flourishing along the Coastal plains and islands thereof where the first settlers and founders of this State resided, and which tree is so closely associated with our early history, and particularly with the lives of many famous Georgians such as General James Edward Oglethorpe, John Wesley and Sidney Lanier."

For more information on Arbor Day activities in the City of Marietta, please call Keep Marietta Beautiful at (770) 794-5606. ⚡

Celebrate Arbor Day with Marietta Tree Keepers

February is the month to show your love for Marietta's most precious natural resource: TREES. Marietta Tree Keepers has a tax-deductible gift idea that will help you do both.

For just \$25, you can have your message etched in stone by ordering a brick for Marietta's newest pocket park. The park project has transformed a vacant lot at the corner of Lemon and Waddell Streets into a beautiful new landmark for the city. Over 2,000 bricks will be used to pave a commemorative walkway amidst newly planted elms, maples and magnolias. Proceeds will help pay for the park and fund Marietta Tree Keepers' ongoing efforts to plant new trees and conduct educational programs citywide.

Marietta Tree Keepers is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. In the past three years, it has planted over 700 trees in cooperation with the City of Marietta, Kennesaw National Battlefield Park and local businesses. The group depends heavily on donations and volunteer contributions.

To order your brick, check out their Web site at www.marietta.ga.gov/treekeepers and click on the "Pocket Park Brick Campaign" link. You can also request an order form by e-mail at mariettatreekeepers@mindspring.com or by phone at (770) 424-4664. Orders should be made no later than February 19, 2005, so that the bricks can be ordered and installed for the park dedication in the spring. A confirmation certificate, suitable for gift giving, will be mailed upon receipt of your order. ⚡

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, January 22

Love the Loop

Help keep the loop clean
Sponsored by Keep Marietta
Beautiful
Call (770) 794-5606
for information

Sunday, February 6

Daddy Daughter Dance

Marietta Conference Center
2:30 to 5 p.m.
Call (770) 794-5601
for information

Friday, February 18

Arbor Day

Sponsored by Keep Marietta
Beautiful
Call (770) 794-5606
for information on Arbor Day
activities

Saturday, March 19

Spring Egg Hunt

Laurel Park
11 a.m.
Call (770) 794-5601
for information

Saturday, April 16

Calvary Kids Fun Fair

Calvary Children's Home
2 to 6 p.m.
Sponsored by Rotary Club
Marietta Metro
For more information and tickets
go to www.calvarykidsfunfair.org